

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of determining a woman's fertility status comprising:
 - 5 providing an optical system having a sample receiving surface and an eyepiece, such that a sample is consistently viewed in focus through the optical system without altering a distance measured between the eyepiece and the sample receiving surface;
 - providing a sample of a bodily fluid from a female;
 - depositing the sample at the sample receiving portion;
 - 10 drying the deposited sample and inspecting the dried sample using the optical system;
 - and
 - correlating the appearance of the dried sample with a reference.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the optical system comprises a multi-lens system.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the geometry of at least one lens is a mirror image of
15 another lens.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the optical system further comprises a condenser.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the condenser reflects light through the dried sample.
6. The method of claim 4, wherein the condenser is a refractive condenser.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the optical system further comprises a filter.
- 20 8. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing a protective cover over the optical system.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the protective cover comprises at least one of a top cover and a bottom cover.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one of a top cover and a bottom cover is slideably coupled to the optical system.
11. The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one of a top cover and a bottom cover are pivotably coupled to the optical system.
- 5 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the bodily fluid of a female is selected from the group consisting of saliva and vaginal fluid.
13. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of drying the sample comprises air drying at room temperature for 10min.
14. The method of claim 1, wherein the reference is a reference chart comprising at least one reference image from a fertile period, one reference image from a transition period, and one reference image from a infertile period.